विद्यालय संगठन द्वारा भेजे गए पत्रों पर पौड़ी के जिला प्रशासन से कोई उत्तर प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

Discontentment among local people at NALCO Plant in Orissa

7508. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing discontentment among the local people due to adhoc employment taking place at NALCO plant at Damanjodi in Orissa;

(b) whether similar irregular and adhoc employment are also taking place at Bhubaneshwar office of NALCO and also at Angul in Orissa;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to stop such illegal practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) There has been no irregular and ad-hoc employment at plants of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) at Damanjodi, Angul and the Corporate Office at Bhubaneswar.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Modernisation of HCL

7509. SHRI S. AUSTIN:
SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise Hindustan Copper Limited;

(b) if so, whether any external aid has been offered in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The company is however planning to expand the capacity of its unit at Khetri from the existing 31,000 Tpa to 1,00,000 Tpa. Details of the project are being got prepared with the help of the consultants engaged for this purpose, funding arrangements will be tied up only on finalisation of these details. Hence question of negotiating any aid at this stage does not arise.

Quantum of bauxite in Andhra Pradesh

7510. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been undertaken to study the quantum of Bauxite available in Chintapalli and other areas of Visakhapatnam and Vijaynagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the estimated reserves of Bauxite in the areas; and

(c) the steps contemplated to set up alumina factories utilising bauxite reserves in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As a result of survey carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Visakhapatnam district, 533.83 million tonnes of bauxite reserves have been estimated

No reserves of bauxite have been estimated in Vijayanagram district of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The Government has approved the project proposal of M/s. Kandula Aluminium Company Ltd. for setting up a 1 million Tonnes Per Annum (TPA) of Calcined Alumina at Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh.

Setting up Graphite units in Madhya Pradesh

7511. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal regarding setting up Units

for exploring and processing graphite in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Multinational diamond giants

7512. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government in consultation with the Government of Madhya Pradesh have taken a decision to invite multinational diamond giants to prospect and mine diamonds in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have taken a decision to drop some of multinational diamond giants;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether public sector companies and private sector in the country have been totally kept out of this diamond mining in the State; and

(e) if so, the reasons and justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) The Madhya Pradesh Government invited applications for prospecting of Diamonds and Alexandrite in South-Eastern part of Raipur District in April, 1994. In response 23 applicants, including some Indian public sector and private sector companies applied. The State Government has selected the following applicants for grant of prospecting rights and has sought Central Government's prior approval under Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957:—

(i) M/s. De Beers (India) Prospecting Limited.

(ii) M/s. CRA Exploration (India) Ltd. and

(iii) M/s. Ashton Mining India Private Limited.

Some objections to State Government's above proposal have been received by the Central Government. A write petition has also been filed against State Government's proposal before the Hon'ble High Court, Jabalpur. The Central Government has not taken any view in the matter yet.

Mining in private sector

7513. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the minerals whose mining is proposed to be entrusted to private sector; and

(b) what are the mineral-wise details of the private sector companies with whom the contracts have been signed or negotiations are going on in this regard together with the names of those companies recommended by State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the Rules made there under which govern the exploitation of all minerals (excluding fuel and Atomic minerals) do not impose any ban on exploitation of these minerals in the private sector.

(b) As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, minerals were being produced from over 3,340 leases in 1993 in both the public and private sector. State Governments grant leases as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act and details of leases under consideration of the State Governments are not readly available.